



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

***Raised Bill No. 6706***

LCO No. 3133



Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

***AN ACT CONCERNING THE FILING FEE AT THE STATE BOARD OF  
MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 31-97 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

3 (a) Whenever a grievance or dispute arises between an employer  
4 and his employees, the parties may submit the same directly to said  
5 board and notify said board or its clerk in writing and upon payment  
6 by each party of a filing fee of [twenty-five] fifty dollars. Whenever a  
7 single public member of the board is chosen to arbitrate a grievance or  
8 dispute, as provided in section 31-93, the parties shall each be  
9 refunded the filing fee. Whenever such notification is given, a panel of  
10 said board, as directed by its chairman, shall proceed with as little  
11 delay as possible to the locality of such grievance or dispute and  
12 inquire into the causes thereof. The parties shall thereupon submit to  
13 said panel in writing, succinctly, clearly and in detail, their grievances  
14 and complaints and the causes thereof, and severally promise and  
15 agree to continue in business or at work without a strike or lockout

16 until the decision of the panel is rendered; but such agreement shall  
17 not be binding unless such decision is rendered within ten days after  
18 the completion of the investigation. The panel shall fully investigate  
19 and inquire into the matters in controversy, take testimony under oath  
20 in relation thereto and may administer oaths and issue subpoenas for  
21 the attendance of witnesses and for the production of books and  
22 papers.

23 (b) No panel of said board may consider any claim that one or more  
24 of the issues before the panel are improper subjects for arbitration  
25 unless the party making such claim has notified the opposing party  
26 and the chairman of the panel of such claim, in writing, at least ten  
27 days prior to the date of hearing, except that the panel may consider  
28 such claim if it determines there was reasonable cause for the failure of  
29 such party to comply with said notice requirement.

30 Sec. 2. Section 31-98 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
31 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

32 (a) The panel, or its single member if sitting in accordance with  
33 section 31-93, may, in its discretion and with the consent of the parties,  
34 issue an oral decision immediately upon conclusion of the  
35 proceedings. If the decision is to be in writing, it shall be signed, within  
36 fifteen days, by a majority of the members of the panel or by the single  
37 member so sitting, and the decision shall state such details as will  
38 clearly show the nature of the decision and the points disposed of by  
39 the panel. Where the decision is in writing, one copy thereof shall be  
40 filed by the panel in the office of the town clerk in the town where the  
41 controversy arose and one copy shall be given to each of the parties to  
42 the controversy. The panel or single member which has rendered an  
43 oral decision immediately upon conclusion of the proceedings shall  
44 submit a written copy of the decision to each party within fifteen days  
45 from the issuance of such oral decision. In all cases where a decision is  
46 rendered orally from the bench, the secretary shall cause such oral  
47 decision to be transcribed, approved by the panel or single member as

48 applicable and filed with the records of the board proceedings.

49 (b) Upon the conclusion of the proceedings, each member of the  
 50 panel shall receive one hundred seventy-five dollars, and on and after  
 51 July 1, 2006, two hundred twenty-five dollars and a panel member  
 52 who prepares a written decision shall receive an additional one  
 53 hundred twenty-five dollars, and on and after July 1, 2006, one  
 54 hundred seventy-five dollars, or the single member, if sitting in  
 55 accordance with section 31-93, shall receive two hundred seventy-five  
 56 dollars, and on and after July 1, 2006, three hundred twenty-five  
 57 dollars, provided if the proceedings extend beyond one day, each  
 58 member shall receive one hundred dollars, and on and after July 1,  
 59 2006, one hundred fifty dollars, and on and after July 1, 2015, two  
 60 hundred dollars, and on and after July 1, 2016, two hundred twenty-  
 61 five dollars for each additional day beyond the first day, and provided  
 62 further no proceeding may be extended beyond two days without the  
 63 prior approval of the Labor Commissioner for each such additional  
 64 day.

65 (c) Upon the conclusion of an executive panel session, each member  
 66 of such panel shall receive one hundred dollars, and on and after July  
 67 1, 2006, one hundred fifty dollars, and on and after July 1, 2015, one  
 68 hundred seventy-five dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	31-97
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	31-98

***Statement of Purpose:***

To increase the filing fee for the submission of grievances to the Board of Mediation and Arbitration and to adjust the compensation rate for the board's arbitrators so that they are ultimately compensated at a consistent rate for each day they preside over an arbitration proceeding.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*